

Regular Meeting of the Durham County Board of Health, held

May 8, 2003, with the following members present:

William Small, MSPH, Chairman, Dr. Mary D. Jacobs, Ruth Smullin,

Robin Blanton, Lorraine Salois-Deane, Dr. Ronald Spain,

Sandra Peele, John Zatti, Dr. James Shade.

Absent Excused: Dr. Philip McHugh and Dr. William Bordley.

**CALL TO ORDER.** Mr. Small, Chairman, called the Regular Meeting to order.

**INTRODUCTION OF NEW BOARD MEMBER.** The Chairman introduced James M. Shade, O.D., as a newly appointed Board of Health member. Dr. Shade fills the licensed optometrist position (G.S.130-35).

Board members and staff welcomed Dr. Shade.

**OATHS OF NEW BOARD MEMBER.** Janice R. Tice, Notary Public, administered the Oath to support Constitutions (G.S.11-7) and the General Oath (G.S.11-11) to Dr. Shade.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES.** Dr. Spain made a motion to approve the Regular meeting minutes of March 13, 2003. Mr. Blanton seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Mr. Robin Blanton made a motion to approve the Special Meeting minutes of March 24, 2003. Ms. Peele seconded the motion and it was approved with no opposition.

**APPROVAL OF 2003 N.C. BREAST & CERVICAL CANCER CONTROL PROGRAM SERVICES FEE SCHEDULE FOR 7-01-03 / 6-30-04.** The Health Director reported to the Board that the Financial Eligibility Scale and the Sliding Fee Scale could not be changed and recommended adoption as presented.

Dr. Spain made a motion to adopt the item as presented. Dr. Jacobs seconded the motion and it was approved with no opposition.

**CONTINUING EDUCATION REPORT.** Ms. Smullin presented the minutes from the Committee's meeting that was held on April 2, 2003. Ms. Smullin, Dr. Spain, Ms. Salois-Deane, Dr. Bordley were in attendance.

- Met with Vaughn Upshaw, Dr.PH, EdD, to produce an outline for the Board Retreat.
  - What does a good board do? (1 hour) Dr. Upshaw will present some material but will ask for Board members' ideas from the beginning.
  - How do we make that happen? (3 hours) The content will follow from whatever the Board chooses as its tasks (functions) to work on.

The Board discussed the possibility of receiving some background information regarding governance at the September meeting to give them a mindset for the Retreat.

Ms. Smullin agreed to contact Dr. Upshaw during the month of August for further clarification in planning the Retreat scheduled on November 13, 2003.

**STRENGTHEN PUBLIC HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE-SB 672.** The Chairman asked the Health Director to speak to SB 672.

Mr. Letourneau said the Board has had the opportunity to review the legislation. Basically, it appears that the proposed senate bill is geared toward improving the quality of public health but the last part of the document speaks to consolidating local health departments. The legislation suggests that by January 1, 2005 that no more than 20 and no less than 10 public health departments exist in North Carolina.

The Health Director said this is a big change from the present. He believes that in terms of the threat to public health it is one of the most damaging pieces of legislation coming down in many years.

The Director said basically it takes away the authority of all local boards of health and the boards of county commissioners and places that authority within the hands of a relatively few boards to control all the public health activities within North Carolina. It has been said over time that all health is local and he believes that all public health is certainly local.

Mr. Letourneau said he objects to the legislation because the Health Department would loose the control over all the delivery of local health services to the populations that need them most. Secondly, the legislation is in reality a resource shift away from counties that have traditionally been generous and have supported their local health department, such as Durham, to those counties that have little or no support from their local counties. He said though the finance structure is not written in the legislation, it is suspected that when rules are written and it is passed that it would require counties to continue *maintenance of effort* which means that the amount of money that has been spent on the activity in question cannot be reduced. The Health Director's assumption is that the Board of County Commissioners will be required to contribute an equal amount of money to a regional board of health as they do to the local board of health and completely lose control over the allocation.

The Director said there is no state funding associated with the legislation other than a \$1 million incentive to the 100 counties to agree to this plan. That is \$10,000 for each county, which is not very much incentive and does not provide a lot of services.

Mr. Letourneau provided the Board a copy of a letter written by the Chairman of the Alamance County Health Department. He said the letter was concise and spoke to some of the issues that are relevant and appropriate to this particular legislation and would ask the Board to request that our Chairman write a similar correspondence to Senator Fletcher Hartsell, Jr. The correspondence would be copied to our local legislative delegation so they would be aware of the Board's position on this issue.

There was Board discussion.

Ms. Salois-Deane said the Association of North Carolina Boards of Health would be taking up this particular bill at the May meeting. She said at this time there has been no formal discussion so there has been no formal ruling by the ANCBH.

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Mr. Letourneau reported the bill had made the crossover to be considered in the next round. He said there has been no official action on the bill but he believed the Board should take a strong opposing position to it and to move forward in that direction.

Dr. Jacobs believes it would be appropriate to take this information to the Board of County Commissioners for them to consider writing a letter to take a position.

Mr. Zatti made a motion for the Chair to move forward with a letter to Senator Hartsell and copied to the local delegation, in opposition to Senate Bill 672. Dr. Spain seconded the motion and it was accepted with no opposition.

**HEALTH DIRECTOR REPORT.** Mr. Letourneau reported that the FY2003-2004 Budget approved by the Board of Health has largely stayed in tact as it has gone through the County Administration's budget process.

The Director said the Department essentially lost one full time position that is currently vacant. If there are no further changes, it will remain as it is now but with the addition of the grants approved by the Board and County Commissioners and additional money for the Jail Health Program that has been under-funded for the past years. He said that the County Manager would address this situation in his message. The County is responsible to pay medical expenses for jail inmates.

Mr. Letourneau believes the Health Department budget has been well presented and preserved. The Department budget hearing before the Board of County Commissioners is scheduled on May 21<sup>st</sup>.

The Health Director invited the Board members to attend a Mock Smallpox Immunization Exercise scheduled for Health Department staff on Friday, May 9th at the N.C. National Guard Armory.

### **May 2003**

#### **ADMINISTRATION**

- As of April 7<sup>th</sup>, the Health Department has been using the new Vital Records Insight Software for distribution of birth and death records. This new software provides better tracking and improves the process for distributing birth and death records. Customer service has been enhanced by this implementation.
- The Privacy Rule of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) went into effect April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2003. The HIPAA Team has worked diligently to bring the Health Department into compliance. We are in compliance with the Privacy Rule and are currently working on the Transaction and Codes Sets compliance phase that becomes effective October 16, 2003.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIVISION**

- Donnie McFall, Environmental Health Director and Bob Jordan and Kristi Woody, Environmental Health Specialists, were among the ten Health Department employees who received smallpox vaccinations on March 18, 2003. A mini-clinic setting was established to give a few Response Team Members an opportunity to function in their specific roles within the stations required of a vaccination clinic operation. This "exercise" provided a valuable learning tool that will help in the planning and development of our Mass Vaccination Plan.

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- Mosquito season has begun. A press release regarding mosquitoes and West Nile Virus was issued and information has been posted as an announcement on the county web site. While the state at this time is not accepting any dead birds for laboratory testing, the division is keeping a log of dead bird reports. The division has continued to provide information to the public regarding the elimination of mosquito breeding areas and how to avoid mosquito bites.
- General Inspections staff investigated a foodborne illness involving a catered meal supplied by an area restaurant to a wedding party. A summation of case studies reflected an attack rate of over 50% and stool specimens from the wedding party tested positive for Norovirus. While no stool specimens were available from restaurant staff and no food samples were implemented, all indications pointed to the meal as the common source of the illnesses.
- March/April 03 enforcement and compliance activities included: food, lodging and institutional inspections- 684, visits- 240; swimming pool inspections- 62; site and soil evaluations and consults- 242; well inspections and consults- 101.
- Marc Meyer, Environmental Health Program Specialist with the lead program, has made 44 site visits and conducted 13 Elevate Blood Lead investigations from July 2002 to April 2003.

## **NUTRITION DIVISION**

### **Success Stories/Outcomes/Impacts**

- Teacher responses are supportive for the DINE for LIFE program in their schools. 100% of teachers responding on customer service cards said the classes/activities conducted by the nutritionists were most always interactive and engaging. Several teachers reported improvements in student nutrition knowledge and behavior as a result of the nutritionist's presence in the classroom. Teachers also reported personal changes in eating and exercise habits.
- Seven parents reported making nutrition or physical activity changes because of the information provided by the nutritionist. Eleven parents said they plan to make a nutrition or physical activity change. Parents say their child talks about the nutrition class while at home.
- Food safety lessons taught by nutritionists are affecting behavior. Several teachers said they observed students washing their hands more frequently following the food safety lesson. Another teacher reported improvements in the food safety skills of his students. A student volunteered that she had made efforts to remember to wash her hands before eating. Another student said he now brings a peanut butter sandwich instead of a meat sandwich because he does not have a way to keep his lunch cool. A teacher said the class enjoyed the food safety lesson because they were paying so much attention.
- Nutritionists regularly report receiving hugs and very positive feedback from the children. Children often ask the nutritionist or their teacher when their next class will be and give unsolicited positive feedback about changes they are making in fruit, vegetable and calcium consumption. The children are candid about how the lessons are affecting them personally and often are heard encouraging positive nutrition behavior among peers. Additionally, some classes follow-up the nutrition class with other activities that support the nutrition lesson.
- After receiving and reading the Alive! Newsletter, a customer called the department to report she had completed one of the nutrition challenges by preparing and eating more balanced meals. The caller also stated that she planned to try another challenge in the future.
- A school nurse reported that teens in a pregnancy support group were so excited about making healthy changes after the class with the

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nutritionist that they asked questions about the information at the next session and proceeded to talk about nutrition again.

- The North Carolina Food Bank in Durham reported that the nutrition education inserts provided by the nutritionist for food boxes were a "hit" with the food pantry recipients.
- Many teachers at Lakewood School said the "Health Night" at the school conducted by the School Health Committee (includes nutritionist) was a success. Several teachers stated they are using and enjoying the recipes provided. Students voiced their approval of the "oven fried chicken" samples.
- A middle school nurse stated she appreciated the nutritionist update and handouts on body mass index in children in assessing weight.
- Two Spanish-speaking clients seen by the nutritionist in the high-risk OB clinic stated, "God Bless you all for all your hard work".

#### **Child Care Centers**

- Conducted 11 childcare center visits and 37 consultations to childcare providers and parents.
- Presented 4 nutrition programs to 44 providers providing 57 written sources of information on mealtime behavior, healthy snacks, calcium, lunch inadequacies, menu revisions, vegetarian meal substitutes, Color Me Healthy curriculum, and 33 folic acid messages.
- Continued collaboration between Nutrition Division and Environmental Health Division on a FDA grant to provide food safety education for childcare centers.

#### **Elementary Schools**

- Presented an educational display at the Durham Bulls "Kids Day at the Ball Park" reaching 2,500 students, teachers and parents. Students received calcium information, stickers and a food safety message.
- Conducted a total of 221 classroom nutrition sessions and 67 taste tests with 3,416 student contacts in 10 DINE for LIFE target schools. Class topics included healthy snacks, fitness, calcium, breakfast, fitness/fluids/heart, grains, food safety and fruits and vegetables.
- Developed and displayed environmental cues reinforcing nutrition, physical activity and food safety messages at eight elementary schools reaching 3,000 children.
- Conducted three sessions for 320 parents (PTA sessions or health fairs) on food safety/hand washing and calcium/food guide pyramid.
- Provided in-service training to Durham County Health Department elementary school nurses on use of new CDC growth charts and body mass index.

#### **Medical Nutrition Therapy Services**

- Received new referrals for 89 children and 20 adults.
- Provided 93 medical nutrition therapy services to children, 194 to pre-conceptional women, high-risk pregnant women, or families with high-risk infants and 44 to adults.
- Provided 153 consultations to caregivers and providers regarding patient care.

#### **Media Involvement**

- Produced and distributed the quarterly Alive! Newsletter to 6, 856 food stamp households in Durham County. Placed 100 copies in DSS waiting areas and distributed 500 copies to parents of children in target classrooms.
- Distributed National Nutrition Month flyers to 10 elementary schools participating in DINE for LIFE and Durham Fitness Flyers at Burton Elementary.

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- Wrote a breakfast article that was published in school newsletters.
- Contributed “NC Report Card 2002” – nutrition article published in School Health Notes winter issue for Durham Public School staff and a physical activity article for the spring issue.
- Wrote “Breakfast anyone? First meal boosts energy brain power” article published in the Healthy Living Section, Herald-Sun in March (circulation 59,000).
- Developed Nutrition in Education Series (NIE) insert “Nutrition, Physical Activity and You...2003” published in the Herald-Sun weekly during March (circulation 59,000) and used in schools.
- Developed “Healthy Eating, Healthy You” National Nutrition Month insert published in the Herald-Sun in March (circulation 59,000). Distributed 3000 additional copies.
- Provided answers that were published with nutrition questions in the Herald-Sun Healthy Living Section Fitness Forum in March and April. (blueberries, calorie needs, serving sizes, folic acid)
- Made contacts to Durham’s Alliance for Child Care Access and Coordinating Council for Senior Citizens regarding submitting nutrition information for their newsletters.

**Health Promotion—Community Outreach**

- Conducted a session on folic acid and food safety to lay community advisors at Durham’s El Centro.
- Provided in-service training to Duke University Medical Center pediatricians and medical students on childhood obesity.
- Provided nutrition sessions including snack taste testing at six senior centers on the Food Guide Pyramid and/or “Saturated and Unsaturated Fats” in a game format with handouts.
- Conducted two sessions on “Healthy Food for Children” at DSS; on “Saturated and Unsaturated Fats” at Dove House; and “Importance of Fiber” at White Rock Baptist Church.
- Staffed nutrition displays with community health fairs at Northeast Baptist Church, First Baptist Church, WD Hill Senior Center, and “Healthy Kids Day” at YMCA.
- Conducted focus group sessions at Dove House and Genesis Home to test out educational materials, newsletters, and topics being developed.

**Community Collaborative Efforts**

- Participated in the Durham Public Schools Annual Child Nutrition Services “Award and Recognition Banquet.” Presented “Certificates of Appreciation” to the 10-target school Child Nutrition Services staff for their collaboration and support during the year. One cafeteria manager was awarded the DINE for LIFE School Cafeteria Manager of the Year award for changes to the cafeteria environment in her school. She offered a variety of milks, including 1% and skim and increased fruit, vegetables and salad available at meals in support of a healthy eating environment.
- Met with the Durham Community Health Coalition regarding nutrition information and participation in several health fairs.
- Consulted with Pregnancy Support Services regarding Spanish nutrition education materials at Durham School of the Arts regarding presentation for a children/parent weight loss/walking group, and with El Centro regarding Spanish nutrition materials.
- Provided nutrition information and healthy recipes for food boxes at Urban Ministries, Christian Assembly Food Pantry and North Carolina Food Bank in Durham.
- Participated in committee meetings of Action for Healthy Kids NC, American Heart Association Physical Activity and Nutrition Committee, Wellness Partnership, and Durham Fitness Council.

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- Participated in meetings of Durham Council for Infants and Young Children, Breastfeeding Support Network of Durham and Meals on Wheels Board of Directors

**Bioterrorism Response**

- Two of the six Bioterrorism Response Teams (includes seven nutrition personnel) are planning a practice stage 2 smallpox vaccination clinic for May.

**HEALTH EDUCATION**

- Willa Robinson represented Public Health at Southern High School's Government Day. Several of the students were not aware of the role of the Health Department in Durham County.
- Willa Robinson recorded a PSA at WDNC for Public Health Month that aired in April.
- The Durham County Health Department was publicized as a sponsor for Family Health and Fitness Day and the Be Active Durham (Move a Million Minutes) fitness initiative.
- Ronda Sanders conducted two lead outreaches for Mt. Vernon Daycare, which is in the priority one area and Wellington Place, a Latino community.
- Robin Tanas along with Durham C.A.N. made a lead presentation to the Childcare Alliance in an effort to increase awareness and recruitment for lead screenings.
- Lead screenings were conducted at Morehead, Fayetteville Street, Eastway, Parkwood, Mangum, Bethesda, Little River, Easley, Hillandale, Oak Grove, Southwest, R.N. Harris, W.G. Pearson, CC Spaulding, Lakewood, Eno Valley, and Forestview elementary schools.
- An eight hour targeted outreach was conducted in priority one neighborhoods the last two weeks of March, reaching 180 homes.
- Heather Scott coordinated lead classes and screenings for Maureen Joy Charter School.
- Nicole Sims conducted her first lesson to TEAS II participants at New Horizons.
- Annette Carrington and Nicole Sims met with Sharon Johnson to discuss logistics and staff trainings for First Breath. Nicole then met briefly with OB staff to discuss First Breath.
- Annette Carrington conducted a community presentation for the Rites of Passage on Sexuality issues.
- T.E.A.S. kicked off its sixth program year. Fifty-five names were submitted for the first year recruitment process. Of these, thirty attended the information meeting and twenty-five signed up for enrolment for the first year TEAS class sessions.
- Jennifer Woodward conducted human growth and development classes at Burton, Glenn, Holt, Forestview, Bethesda, Brogden, Lowes Grove, Jordan, Club Blvd., Lakewood, and Eastway schools. She also conducted community and school programs of various topics at Lakeview, Githens, NCCU, PROUD, Lowes Grove and Githens.
- The Durham County Infant Mortality Reduction Task Force (DCIMRTF) meeting was held on April 22. Twenty-eight task force members attended the meeting. Ms. Vicki Mann and Ms. Carolyn Spivey, Lee County Health Department, were guest speakers. They presented information on the "Sister Love Project". Sister Love was highly effective in reducing infant mortality rates in Lee County. The success of the project was attributed to the implementation of community sponsored "Hometalk Parties".
- Caressa McLaughlin served as Co-Chair for the Black Church Week of Prayer for the Healing of AIDS March 2 through March 8, 2003.

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She also conducted an HIV/AIDS information session to adolescents, and participated on a panel discussion during the Black Church Week of Prayer for the Healing of AIDS. She also participated on a panel discussion addressing the Black Church and Sexuality and its response to the AIDS epidemic in the African American Community.

- Jessica Self, Caressa McLaughlin and Carlotta Lee attended the Duke AIDS Research and Treatment (DART) HIV Treatment Update that was held at the Durham Marriott. Jessica Self participated in the planning of this event as part of DART's Community Advisory Board. Over 300 people attended the function.
- Project STAND, the syphilis elimination project for Durham, conducted an Intensive Community Education Effort (ICEE) at McDougald Terrace. Fifty-four residents were tested for syphilis, none of the results were positive. Ashley Graham conducted an educational session for residents of McDougald Terrace, prior to the ICEE that weekend.
- Ashley Graham provided STD/HIV information at a health fair for seniors at WD Hill Community Center. She also conducted an educational session at the Durham Center and the Community Shelter for Hope.
- A syphilis screening took place at the Community Shelter for HOPE on March 25. Twenty individuals were tested for syphilis and there were no positives.
- Corinne Alvino, LPN, Project STAND, offered syphilis testing to inmates on a daily basis. A total, 92 inmates were tested and there was one positive, but was not a new case.
- The Communicable Disease Education section conducted community outreach sessions in recognition of STD Awareness Month. Carlotta Lee and the Project SAFE Peer Educators also conducted outreach in dormitories on the campus of NCCU for STD Awareness Month. In addition, two STD/ Safer Sex presentations were conducted in NCCU dorms in April.
- Carlotta Lee coordinated the Project SAFE retreat. The retreat recognized the peer educators for their contributions to the program this year.
- Caressa McLaughlin and Jessica Self attended the State HIV/STD Prevention and Care Branch HIV Academy in Raleigh.
- Project STAND and El Centro Hispano partnered to conduct the "Playin' It Safe" Soccer Tournament. The event was in recognition of STD Awareness Month. Education and screening for syphilis was provided. A total of 33 people were screened at the event. Ashley Graham coordinated the screening at this event. Caressa McLaughlin and Jessica Self also participated in the event that was attended by approximately 125 people.
- Ashley Graham and Caressa McLaughlin participated in the Syphilis Intensive Community Education Effort (ICEE) with Wake County Health And Human Services and the Alliance of AIDS Services Carolina at two nightclubs (CC's and Flex) to screen and educate men who have sex with men (MSM) about syphilis.

#### **DENTAL DIVISION**

- Dental health education presentations were given at Bethesda and Glenn elementary schools and at the Children's Health Fair in McDougald Terrace.
- Dental staff screened 461 children at Holt Elementary School on April 10<sup>th</sup> in preparation for the Tooth Ferry staff to provide treatment there

in July and August. One hundred twelve (112) children were found to have obvious dental needs.

- Staff screened 556 children at Oak Grove Elementary School on April 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> in preparation for the van to be there the latter part of August and September. One hundred seventy-one (171) children were found to have obvious dental needs.
- In March and April, there were 1,895 dental procedures done during 372 encounters in the clinic. During the same period, there were 898 procedures done during 211 encounters on the dental van.
- Dr. McIntosh and the van staff attended the March Dental Van Committee meeting to plan the schedule for the rest of the school year and tentatively plan next year.
- Dr. Ellis attended the School Health Team meetings in March and April and Dr. McIntosh attended the Durham-Orange Dental Society meeting in March.
- The Tooth Ferry and its staff visited the Durham-Orange Dental Society during its April meeting.
- Dr. Quinonez provided an in-service for the Dental Division staff on “Dental Office Emergency Medical Procedures” on March 12<sup>th</sup> in preparation of implementing the use of nitrous oxide in the clinic.

#### **COMMUNITY HEALTH DIVISION**

On March 13-14, all Women’s Health programs and the Child Service Coordination (CSC) program were audited by state consultants as part of the required periodic Women’s and Children’s Monitoring Process. The consultants were very complimentary of the work done by the staff within the program areas and the leadership provided by staff, particularly those in CSC, to the entire state. Several aspects of the programs were found to represent exemplary practice. Recommendations for a billing process change and the development of an agency-wide abbreviation list for documentation were made. The findings from the audit will be listed in the summary report that is expected in mid-May.

#### **Child and Youth Programs Neighborhood Nursing**

- Kerry Smith, Ann Barnes, and Joyce Snipes offered a health fair in March for senior citizens at W.D. Hill Community Center. Representatives from several other community agencies/organizations provided health-related information to the participants.

#### **Fayetteville Street**

- Ann Barnes and Joyce Snipes continue to assist residents that are relocating, as the community transitions from a public housing development to an apartment complex. The residents are facing many adjustments and financial struggles.
- Ann Barnes attended an educational update that covered a variety of health-related issues impacting women and children.

#### **Child Care Health Coordination**

- Katrina Teachey joined the Child Care Health Consultant (CCHC) team as the Developmental Therapist for the program. This much-needed resource will help providers and families identify children with special needs.
- The CCHC staff, Kathy Jackson, Program Manager, and Sue Guptill, Division Director, met with the Allocations Committee of Durham’s Partnership for Children regarding the renewal grant for next year. Support for the project from the local Partnership is strong, but potential Smart Start cuts at the state level could severely impact this program.

### **School Health**

- Staff at several elementary schools reported concerns about SARS as they had students that traveled abroad during the spring break.
- Citricia Key assisted in the organization and implementation of an evening health fair at Lakewood Elementary School. The focus of the health fair was healthy living and was attended by 50 students, families, and staff.
- Catherine Medlin attended the Safe & Orderly Schools Review Committee. This committee meets biannually to review the Durham Public Schools Safe School Plan.
- Chinauwa Sutphin joined the School Health Middle and High School team.
- Megan Harris coordinated “Hoops for Hearts” heart health education classes for Githens Middle School. Staff from Health Education and Nutrition participated in this project.
- Nan Baker and Clementine Buford solicited funds and participated in the “Walk for Education” sponsored by Durham Public Schools.

### **Child Service Coordination**

- Cheryl Kegg and Sue Guptill participated in regional and state meetings to help redesign statewide Early Intervention services.

### **Women’s Health Programs**

#### **Maternity Clinic**

- There were 721 visits to the maternity clinic in March, and 72 of these were teens. There were 735 visits in April, and 80 of these were teens. Sixty of 106 new patients in March were Hispanic, and 65 of 120 new patients in April were Hispanic.
- A new part-time Spanish interpreter, Jacqueline Cheek, started working in the Maternity Clinic in April.

#### **Baby Love and Postpartum/Newborn**

- There were 398 Maternal Care Coordination services provided in March and 415 were provided in April.
- Ninety-eight Maternal Outreach services were provided in March and 87 were provided in April.
- There were 29 Postpartum Home Visits made in March and 34 were made in April. Thirty Newborn Home Visits were made March and 35 were made in April.
- Suzanne Hayes, MCC social worker, hosts a chat group for moms and dads-to-be. This group meets monthly until the baby reaches the age of one.

#### **Family Planning Clinic**

- There were 262 Initial and Annual physical exams performed in Family Planning Clinic in March 2003 compared to 253 performed in March 2002.
- There were 276 exams performed in April 2003 compared to 253 performed in April 2002.
- Margaret Smith, FNP retired on March 31, but has graciously returned for two months until her position can be filled.

### **Adult Health Programs**

#### **Home Health**

- Home Health Nurses collaborated with the UNC-CH School of Nursing in communications with two Home Health clients interested in participating in a research study to help develop an intervention to help people with catheters reduce urinary tract infections.

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- Home Health was able to accept six home health referrals during April despite the vacant positions in the programs. Two referrals were declined because of the shortage of staff.

**Jail Health**

- The program is happy to welcome two new staff members to the team, Lila Richardson, LPN and Dianne Pickett, PHN I. Ms. Richardson and Ms. Pickett have prior corrections nursing experience and are very welcome additions to the jail health program.
- Ms. Peggy Williams, LPN II, retired after 17 years of service. The program wishes her the best of luck; all will miss her knowledge and experience.
- The Jail Health Program nurses presented an in-service to Community Health Division staff in April entitled, “Taking a Closer Look at Jail Health”. The in-service provided information about the history of the jail, services offered in jail health, and concluded with a tour of the facility.

**Miscellaneous**

- Members of the Leadership Team participated in Incident Command System training offered by Durham County EMS in March.
- All staff continue to spend many hours in planning responses to bioterrorism, particularly smallpox.
- Janice Anderson, Clementine Buford, Theresa May, and Gayle Harris attended a videoconference, “Community Response to Truancy,” at Durham Technical Community College on April 30.
- Gayle Harris attended the regularly scheduled meetings of Durham Community Health Network’s Medical/Clinical Management Committee, Keeping in Step/TWU Seniors Issue Team, Juvenile Crime Prevention Council, Lincoln Community Health Center Board of Directors, Wellness Partnership, the Community Collaborative (Mental Health), and Project STAND.

**GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES CLINIC**

**BCCCP/Adult Health Screening Program**

- 28 women in March and 25 women in April were screened in the BCCCP Program.
- 33 women in March and 36 women in April were screened for domestic violence.
- 233 persons in March and 302 persons in April were screened for hypertension.

**Communicable Diseases Screening**

- 334 persons in March and 420 persons in April were screened in STD Clinic.
- 343 persons in March and 323 persons in April were screened for HIV: (197 tested in March and 181 tested in April at Durham County Health Department; 119 tested in March and 106 tested in April at Lincoln Community Health Center; 10 tested in March and 19 tested in April at the Durham County Jail, 17 tested in March and 17 tested in April through community outreach). There were 5 positive tests in March and 1 positive test in April.

**Reportable Diseases (Other than STDs)**

	<u>March</u>	<u>April</u>
• Hepatitis A:	0	1
• Hepatitis B, Acute:	0	0
• Hepatitis B, Carrier:	*3	*2
• Rabies Bite Investigations:	6	10

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• Tuberculosis Cases:	0	2
• Campylobacter:	1	0
• Salmonellosis:	1	0
• Shigella:	0	0
• E. Coli 0157:H7:	0	0
• Cryptosporidiosis:	0	0
• Pertussis:	0	1
• Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever:	0	0
• Brucellosis		0
0		
• Malaria	0	0

\*Note: As we get lab reports of HBV carriers sent (forwarded) to us by the state, these do not represent new cases necessarily. They are often known carriers of some duration never reported initially by patient’s physicians.

**Outbreaks**

- A cluster of respiratory illnesses of unknown etiology were reported on March 24, 2003 from a local rest home with 7 hospitalized patients and 10 outpatients seen with increased cough and shortness of breath at Durham Regional Hospital (DRH). The DCHD Epi-Team including Donnie McFall, Dr. Arlene Seña, Pam Weaver, RN, Diana Nelson-Coates, RN, and Susan Servant, RN, participated in the investigation, with assistance from the N.C. Public Health Regional and Surveillance Team IV and DRH Infection Control. During the investigation, records were reviewed for all the cases, and 130 individuals including the cases, other residents, and staff of the rest home were interviewed for symptoms and travel histories. Based on the interviews and laboratory testing conducted on the cases, no etiology could be determined but was assumed to be a respiratory virus (severe acute respiratory illness or SARS was ruled out early in the investigation).

**Immunizations**

Immunizations given: 447 in March and 461 in April

**Pharmacy**

Prescriptions filled: 3861 in March and 4969 in April

**Laboratory**

Tests performed: 5,492 in March and 6158 in April

**Activities of Staff**

- Robin Godwin-Livingstone, RN, Immunizations Clinic attended a class at Human Resources on *Sexual Harassment* on March 7, 2003.
- Sinatra Kitt, Immunization Clinic, attended a class on *Diversity Advantage*.
- Diana Coates, RN, Immunization Clinic attended a class at Human Resources on *Planning Makes Perfect* on March 12, 2003. Diana also attended a class on *Interaction Management* on April 29, 2003.
- Smallpox Vaccine Administration Training was held on March 6, 2003 for two EMS of Durham County and on March 17, 2003 for twenty-nine nurses.
- On March 18, 2003, DCHD conducted its pre-event Stage I Smallpox Vaccination Clinic for 10 county employees. Dr. Seña, Pam Weaver, RN, and Diana Nelson-Coates, RN, played a key role in planning the clinical aspects of the vaccination process. Following vaccinations, the daily dressing checks, 7-day evaluations, and 21-day evaluations were performed in the Immunization Clinic by Diana Nelson-Coates.

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- On March 15, 2003, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued a press release regarding SARS, an atypical pneumonia primarily noted among individuals and travelers from Southeast Asia. Since that time, Dr. Seña and Pam Weaver have forwarded information from the CDC and the N.C. Division of Public Health to local health care providers, educated their communicable disease staff, and responded to calls from local physicians and the community regarding suspected cases and concerns about SARS. To date, there have been no suspected cases of the disease reported in Durham County.
- On April 16, 2003 the State Immunization Branch sent a representative to do a site visit and survey of the Immunization Clinic. They received favorable remarks, especially on the new policy and procedure manual.

**HEALTH DIRECTOR'S OFFICE**

- A series of meeting were held with Durham County Health Department and Duke University Health System officials to discuss the possibility of developing an obesity treatment and prevention project as a joint venture between Durham County and Duke University Health System. MaryAnn Black, DUHS Director of Community Health, is leading the DUHS effort and Gayle Harris, Becky Freeman, and the Health Director are representing the Health Department. Durham Public Schools has been invited to participate. There is a great deal of interest on all sides to identify innovative and effective strategies to address this growing problem in our community. The strategy will target neighborhood schools in high-risk areas as the initial implementation sites.
- Attended the Lead Ad Hoc Task Force meeting to review progress to date on identifying and testing at risk children for blood lead poisoning. Several hundred elementary school children have been tested with the presence of some blood lead found in more than 40% of children tested.
- Attended two Durham County Department Heads meetings. Joanie Hoggard, Health Educator, presented the May 15th Wellness Booster event for City and County employees to the group.
- Attended two Durham's Partnership for Children meetings. The Board of Directors selected Marsha Basloe as the new Executive Director to replace Susan Catapano. Ms. Basloe comes to the Partnership from her United Way fund raising position in Charlotte.
- Attended a meeting of the Durham Board of County Commissioners to discuss the Capital Improvement Plan and the plan to construct new Human Services department buildings. The BOCC voted to keep Human Services department located in the downtown Durham area.
- Attended the inaugural Emergency Services Task Force Meeting at Duke Hospital. The purpose of the task force is to advise Duke University Health System on factors that will affect reconfiguring emergency department services and constructing or renovating the Emergency Department at Duke Hospital.
- Attended Incident Command 200 training at the EMS offices on the Durham Regional Hospital campus.
- Participated in the three-day spring meeting of the National Association of County & City Health Officials Bioterrorism Committee in Washington, DC. The meeting successfully lobbied representatives from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to include language in their upcoming bioterrorism grant guidance requiring states to allocate significant funding from the bioterrorism grant to local health departments. States are also required to demonstrate that local public health officials' concur with and

participated in state plans for expenditure of these funds. This is a dramatic difference from last year's guidance and should result in a greater share of the federal funding for bioterrorism reaching the local level.

- Hosted the Public Health Regional Surveillance Team 4 (PHRST 4) monthly meeting. SARS and the status of smallpox immunizations for first responders were discussed.
- Gave welcoming remarks to the "Vision 2010 Exploring Best Practices in Tobacco Use Prevention and Control" statewide conference held at the Durham Hilton.
- Participated in a panel discussion regarding health issues faced by Durham's low-income at-risk children sponsored by Durham's Partnership for Children.
- Presented along with the Leadership Team the Health Department's 2003-2004 Budget Proposal to Deputy County Manager Carolyn Titus and Budget Director Pam Meyer.
- Met again with a committee following up on the Economic Health Summit hosted by MaryAnn Black and Durham Health Partners. The purpose of the committee is to assess the economic impact of uncompensated care on the community and some possible avenues of relief.
- Attended the Duke Bioterrorism Staff Meeting chaired by Keith Kaye, MD. The status of smallpox immunizations for the Health Department and the area hospitals was discussed at length. Electron microscopy as a rapid test for suspected smallpox lesions was presented. The status of SARS and its potential impact on local area hospitals was also discussed.
- Attended the opening ceremonies of Durham's Senior Games.
- Participated in a National Institutes of Health (NIH) site visit to the Nicholas School of the Environment at Duke to present information related to the use of GIS spatial tools assessing public health needs in the community. Using GIS to identify housing at risk for lead contamination in Durham was highlighted.

#### **DURHAM'S PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN (DPfC) GRANT.**

The Chairman recognized the Health Director.

Mr. Letourneau said the last issue to bring before the Board was brought to his attention via a telephone call on May 7<sup>th</sup> regarding the Health Department's (HD) grant with DPfC. The HD has had a several-year grant to provide child care consultation services with child care centers in the community.

The Health Director said from the HD's perspective he believes this has gone well for a number of years. The telephone call was to inform the HD that the DPfC's Allocation Committee was planning not to offer the HD grant and to put the money out through a Request For Application. The reasons stated were that the HD did not have adequate outcome measures to support its application. The HD disputes that and vigorously objects to the supposition that the HD has not done a good job and that the HD does not have outcome measures in place that are adequate and meaningful.

The Health Director said the amount of money involved is \$264,000. The salary piece is \$227,000. He said the HD has done everything it said it would do. It has provided all the services it said it would provide within the amount of time it said it would do them.

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Mr. Letourneau said this is a shock to the HD and one that he is very disturbed about. The HD was not contacted at anytime during the year about this issue and was not informed of any deficiencies in the Child Care Health Consultation Project nor in the HD's evaluation of the Project. The DPfC approved every evaluation tool that is in place. The Project plan was approved by the DPfC and in fact, the HD was provided with additional money in January from the DPfC.

The Health Director said that he will attempt to work out something with the DPfC to stop this from happening; for the DPfC to reconsider what he believes would be a bad decision; and to work out an arrangement whereby the HD can continue to provide that needed service in the community.

Mr. Letourneau said all the documents are available that support the HD's position that it has provided all the services it has been obligated to do, conducted all the reviews of all the centers, conducted all the medical record reviews of immunization status, and that it provided a valuable service to this constituency. This material is available to the Board members upon request.

The Health Director said if he is not able to work out a solution that is beneficial to the HD, that he is asking the Board of Health's permission to withdraw the application to the DPfC before a vote is taken by the DPfC's Board of Directors to de-fund the HD.

The Chairman asked if there were questions.

Dr. Jacobs asked whether other agencies have been treated similarly.

The Health Director responded that he is not involved in the allocation process because the HD is a funded agency. He does not know what happened during the process. He said there have been other agencies de-funded in the past but he believes given the circumstances, the material he has reviewed, the process the HD has gone through, and the work it has done that this is a bad decision.

Dr. Spain asked if the application were withdrawn what would happen with those salaried positions supported by the DPfC funds.

The Health Director responded that there are 4½ -5 positions associated with the Project. These individuals would be offered vacant positions within the HD. However, it may not be possible to offer everyone a position but there is approximately 6-7 weeks to work this out.

There was further discussion by the Board.

Ms. Salois-Deane made a motion to give the Health Director permission to withdraw an application for funding from the Durham agency if he cannot work out satisfactory resolution. Dr. Spain seconded the motion. The motion was approved. Ms. Smullin abstained.

Mr. Letourneau responded to a question from Dr. Jacobs regarding the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act.

He said the Health Department has met the deadline for the HIPAA Privacy Rule and expects to meet the deadline for coding information in October, 2003. The Health Department meets the definition of a "hybrid entity" and has both covered health care

components and non-covered health care components within the Department. The use or disclosure of a reportable communicable disease is permitted without the patient's permission for compliance enforcement required by public health law.

Ms. Salois-Deane has been appointed to the Association of North Carolina Boards of Health that provides her with the opportunity to keep the local Board well informed. She will attend her first meeting in May.

The Board congratulated Ms. Salois-Deane.

The Chairman asked the Health Director to present a brief overview of the Severe Acute Syndrome (SARS) situation in North Carolina.

The Health Director said as of today the risk of SARS is relatively small. He said the country has reacted very quickly and has done a good job managing it. In terms of North Carolina there are eight suspect cases with a few in the Triangle, but he has not heard whether the suspect cases have been confirmed through laboratory reports.

Mr. Letourneau said the Health Department has taken action and provided physicians and hospitals in the community with information regarding what to look for and how to manage SARS. The Department used a blast fax as the primary mechanism for notifying all the primary care practices. He said there are stellar organizations in the Triangle that probably do not need a lot of support from the Department but the information was also shared with them.

The Health Director said the Durham community has as good a handle on SARS as any other community. He said the Department has been preparing for a possible bioterrorism event for two years and believes the Department is ready to investigate and manage a SARS case when it is identified in Durham. He said if there were thousands of cases that no community is prepared for that volume.

Mr. Letourneau said there is still a great deal about SARS that is unknown. It is an evolving process.

Mr. Zatti made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Peele seconded the motion. Motion passed.

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William T. Small, MSPH  
Chairman

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Brian E. Letourneau, MSPH  
Health Director

*Dr. Bordley did not attend the Continuing Education Meeting held on April 2, 2003. [Correction occurred at the 7/10/03 meeting.]*